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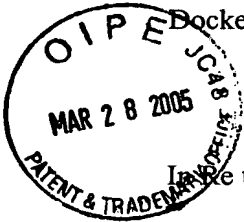
TRANSMITTAL FORM (to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)	Application Number	10/715,562	
	Filing Date	November 19, 2003	
	First Named Inventor	O'Connor, Lawrence J.	
	Art Unit	1772	
	Examiner Name	To Be Assigned	
Total Number of Pages in This Submission	17	Attorney Docket Number	12267

ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached	<input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to TC
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SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT		
Firm Name	ROBERTS, MLOTKOWSKI & HOBBS, PC Customer No. 25570	
Signature	<i>Caroline D. Dennison</i>	
Printed name	Caroline D. Dennison	
Date	March 24, 2005	Reg. No. 34,494

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION/MAILING		
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO or deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date shown below:		
Signature	<i>Caroline D. Dennison</i>	
Typed or printed name	Caroline D. Dennison	Date March 24, 2005

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.5. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.11 and 1.14. This collection is estimated to 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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Docket Number: 12267

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re the Application of

O'CONNOR

Group Art Unit: 1772

Application No.: 10/715,562

Examiner: To Be Assigned

Filed: November 19, 2003

Confirmation No.: 5059

Title: COVERING FOR BOARDS

March 24, 2005

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Mail Stop: Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the reference(s) listed on the attached SB 8a-b. One copy of each foreign reference is attached. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the reference(s) be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom. Applicants respectfully request the Examiner return an initialed copy of the enclosed form to Applicants with the next Office communication to indicate that the references have been considered, per MPEP § 609.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed:

A. ☒ within three months of the U.S. filing date of this application, OR (b) before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits in this application.

i. ☒ No certification or fee is required.

B. ☐ after the period specified above in section A, but before the mailing date of any final action in this application.

i. ☐ Each item of information contained in this submission was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this information disclosure statement; **OR**

ii. ☐ No item of information contained in this submission was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing this certification, after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in this submission was known to any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this information disclosure statement; **OR**

ii. ☐ The fee set forth in §1.17(p) is submitted herewith.

C. ____ after the period specified above in sections A and B, but before payment of the Issue Fee.

i. ____ Each item of information contained in this submission was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this information disclosure statement; **OR**

ii. ____ No item of information contained in this submission was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing this certification, after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in this submission was known to any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this information disclosure statement; **AND**

iii. ____ The fee set forth in §1.17(p) is submitted herewith.

This application is one of a series of related applications, identified in the attached Appendix, which are directed to related technical subject matter. The identification of those U.S. Patent Applications is not to be construed as a waiver of secrecy as to those applications now or upon issuance of the present application as a patent.

The Examiner is respectfully requested to consider the cited applications and the art cited therein during examination.

Respectfully submitted,



Caroline D. Dennison
Registration Number 34,494
Telephone: (703) 584-3267
Facsimile: (703) 848-2981

Roberts, Mlotkowski & Hobbes, P.C.
P.O. Box 10064
McLean, VA 22102
Customer Number: 25570

APPENDIX

Examiner's Initials	First Inventor	Application No.	Filing Date
	O'Connor	11/023,412	12/29/04
	O'Connor	11/023,413	12/29/04
	O'Connor	11/034,255	01/13/05

The Examiner's initials indicate he/she has considered the cited application relative to the subject application.

DO NOT PRINT the above information on the patent which results from the subject application.



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Substitute for form 1449/PTO

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Complete if Known

Application Number	10/715,562
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First Named Inventor	O'Connor, Lawrence J
Art Unit	1772
Examiner Name	To Be Assigned
Attorney Docket Number	12267

Sheet	1	of	1
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U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

[illegible]

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	T ²
		Country Code ³ -Number ⁴ -Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
	5	GB 1,007,281	10/13/1965	Sleep		
	6	GB 2,163,973	03/12/1986	Hoopengardner		

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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